



**For Immediate Release**  
**May 5, 2006**

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### **STATE ANNOUNCES PARK-SERVE DAY, SATURDAY, MAY 13**

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), in cooperation with the Student Conservation Association (SCA) Massachusetts Parks AmeriCorps Program, will hold its first annual Park-Serve Day, a large-scale volunteer effort to beautify and protect Massachusetts state parks, forests and reservations, on Saturday, May 13.

The all-day event will provide an opportunity for individuals to engage in a variety of conservation, beautification, and maintenance projects at several DCR properties in Western Massachusetts, including Mount Tom State Reservation in Holyoke (volunteers will meet at the lake picnic area), Pittsfield State Forest in Pittsfield (meet at the headquarters parking lot), D.A.R. State Forest in Goshen (meet at the campground parking lot) and Greylock Glen in Adams (meet at the pavilion on Gould Road).

Volunteers will be working with trained SCA AmeriCorps members, and persons of all ages and abilities are welcome. Volunteers may come and go as they please, but, are encouraged to arrive at the meeting locations at 9:00 a.m. for greetings and instructions, if at all possible. Volunteers should wear sturdy footwear, long pants and work gloves, and bring a bag lunch (if staying all day), drinking water and hand tools, if possible.

Volunteers will also have the opportunity to observe and learn conservation techniques, tree and plant identification, local land history, and learn more about SCA's and DCR's conservation and recreation initiatives.

For more information, contact SCA Mass Parks AmeriCorps Program Director Jill Baum at 413-339-6631 or DCR's West Region Director Robert Mellace at 413-442-8928, x. 15. More information on the Massachusetts Connect and Serve program can be found at <http://www.mass.gov/connectandserve>.

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